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The BG News March 17, 2011

Bowling Green State University

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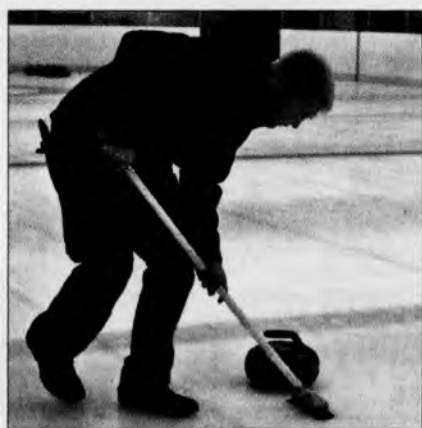
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sweep and *slide*



PHOTOS BY LAUREN POFF | THE BG NEWS

Ice Arena hosts open recreational curling league for University students

By Max Filby
Assistant Web Editor

Lindsay Lance always keeps her eyes on the prize — or the house.

Every Tuesday night Lance and her teammates from the curling club compete to slide their rock into the target, called a house.

"You really have to concentrate," Lance said. "Every sheet [of ice] is different."

Although Lance started to curl with the curling club, she suggests students try curling through the Ice Arena's open curling league that started Wednesday night.

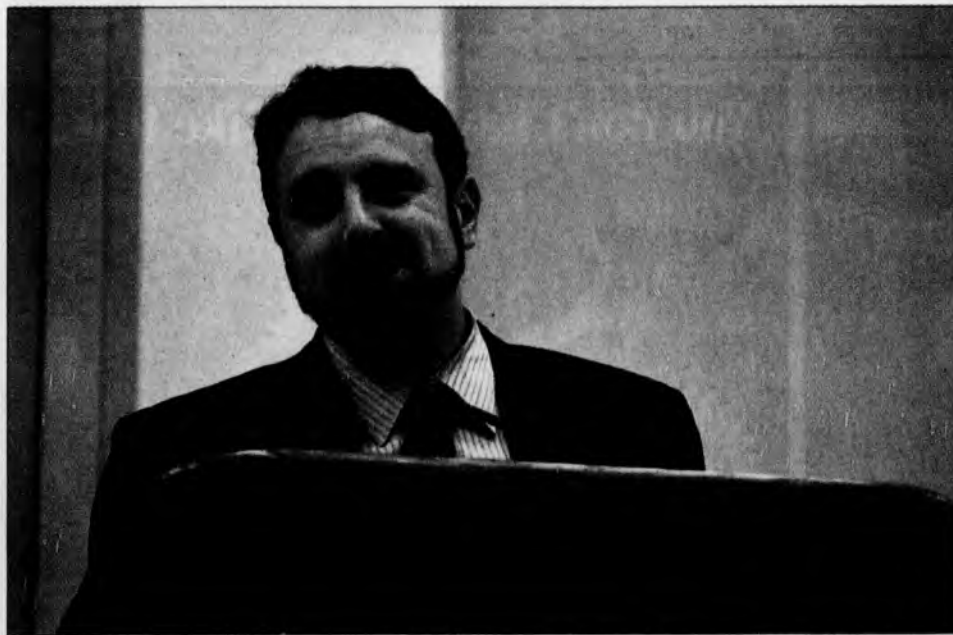
Students can pay \$25 to curl in the open league from 10 to 11 p.m. every Wednesday and Thursday, according to the Department of Recreation and Wellness website.

The league runs through March 31, and equipment is provided for the \$25 fee. Curling teams are limited to five people.

Student Zakk Wickert taught his younger brother Ryan how to curl at Wednesday night's open curling league. The Wickerts were two of only four students who showed up for the open

See **CURLING** | Page 2

HILLEL PORTRAYAL PRESENTATION



LAUREN POFF | THE BG NEWS

SPEAK: Henry Bial from the University of Kansas speaks Wednesday night about Jews in the media. The presentation was put on by Hillel, the Jewish student group.

Presidential candidate speaks at final forum

By Alissa Widman
Assistant News Editor



Gary Miller
Candidate for
University
president

Gary Miller, one of three candidates for the University's next president, is familiar with an everyday college experience.

Miller, provost at Wichita State University, is a former member of the student government, lacrosse team and a fraternity at the College of William & Mary.

He hopes to engage the student body by bringing his experiences to the University this fall.

"My undergraduate education at William & Mary was a fully awakening experience," he said. "I immersed myself into that culture and was transformed."

An undergraduate education at the University should be equally transforming, Miller said.

"My vision for Bowling Green State University is pretty simple," he said. "It's that this university is an unquestioned leader in higher education, with a baccalaureate experience second to none — and that it's viewed that way throughout the state, the nation and the world."

Miller spoke to a crowd of more than 100 in the Union theater Wednesday afternoon. Following a 15-minute presentation, he answered questions from students, faculty and staff for nearly an hour.

Miller has been a leader at several universities nationwide, including the University of the Pacific and the University of Mississippi. He has been provost of Wichita, a Kansas university with nearly 15,000 students, since 2006.

Higher education is transforming, Miller said, into a period characterized by serious budget issues and declining public perception.

"But BGSU has a deep history of excellence in higher education and, in my view, will continue to build models for higher education in this difficult time," he said. "There are so many initiatives here — so much optimism and desire to look to the future — that this is an institution that clearly will navigate this difficult time very successfully."

Recognizing the Information Age at hand is crucial to prepare students for the 21st century, he said.

"It's changing the way we communicate and interact with one another," Miller said. "Our challenge is to create an environment at BGSU to

integrate valued traditions inside this enormous information economy to prepare students to be citizens in this country and around the world."

Miller also addressed the importance of engaging the local community for both students and the city of Bowling Green.

"By providing learning environments for students outside of the classroom, we take basic research and translate it into social good," he said. "The community becomes our laboratory and will give students the networking they will need to survive and thrive."

Freshman Maddi Montavon attended the forum with the Presidential Honors Program and said she enjoyed Miller's enthusiastic presentation.

"I like how he talked about engagement, because we talk about it in class," she said. "Engaging students is very important at a University. For me, engaging is a big thing, because it's pointless to be here if I don't have something to keep me here."

William Primrose, presidential search committee chair, said the three presidential candidate forums will help the committee make a well-educated decision for the University's next president.

"We have three interesting, qualified candidates," he said. "The University has done a great job interviewing them, and I'm anxious to get feedback and see where we go from here."

The committee will select a new president by spring semester's end via a public vote, Primrose said.

President Carol Cartwright will step down June 30.

Prior to the vote, the committee will review evaluation forms submitted by forum attendees. Then, it will perform background checks and communicate with the candidates' external references.

"There's no reason we can't get this done by then," Primrose said. "The quicker the better."

Recordings of the forums and biographies of the candidates are available on the presidential search page of the University's website.

CAMPUS BRIEF

Former professor pleads no contest to charge

A former University professor pleaded no contest last week to a gun charge, the latest in a series of incidents that leaves him banned from the Firelands campus.

Patrick Saunders, 62, of Norwalk, Ohio, was charged last year with one count of improperly handling a firearm while operating a motor vehicle, a fourth-degree felony.

Saunders pleaded no contest to the fourth-degree felony and was placed in a diversion program, according to Huron County court records. He will serve no jail or prison time as long as he stays out of trouble for two years.

In separate case last year, Saunders also pleaded no contest to allegations that he threatened a Firelands faculty member. He made comments critical of the faculty member to a student while motioning with a knife, which the student reported to police.



Patrick Saunders
Former University
Professor

Although Saunders was originally charged with aggravated menacing and possession of a weapon, a judge found him guilty of inducing panic, a misdemeanor. Saunders was sentenced in October to 180 days in jail, which was suspended pending his completion of two years of probation.

Saunders also received a \$500 fine for the incident and was ordered to have no contact with the faculty member or the Firelands campus.

Information from the Sandusky Register and The Morning Journal was used in this report.

By Alex Aspacher, Reporter

NATION

Food prices continue to rise

Already facing rising food prices, Americans can likely expect to see more drastic increases in the prices at grocery stores and restaurants | **Page 3**

FORUM

All people have free speech

While the Westboro Baptist Church is widely considered to be hateful, the Supreme Court ruling in its favor was fair, according to columnist Tyler Buchanan | **Page 4**

SPORTS

Falcons win home opener

Initially down 5-0, the BG baseball team battled back to defeat the University of Northwestern Ohio Racers 6-5 on a walk-off in its home opener | **Page 6**

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

If you could play any sport on ice, what would it be?



NICK CANTWELL
Sophomore, Biology
"Tennis." | **Page 4**

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BLOTTER

TUES., MARCH 15

2:01 A.M.

A complainant reported her ring stolen from McDonald East.

1:53 P.M.

A complainant reported that sometime between Friday and Monday, objects were thrown at an apartment sliding door, damaging both doors on the track and causing approximately \$500 of damage within the 800 block of 5th St.

7:42 P.M.

A complainant reported her maroon Blackberry Curve stolen from her unlocked vehicle while parked at Rite Aid.

8:12 P.M.

Joseph Sharp and Andy Jones, both of Bowling Green, Chad Young, of Pemberville, Ohio, and Jacob Warnke, of Oregon, Ohio, were each cited for open container of alcohol in Lot N.

ONLINE: Go to bgviews.com for the complete blotter list.

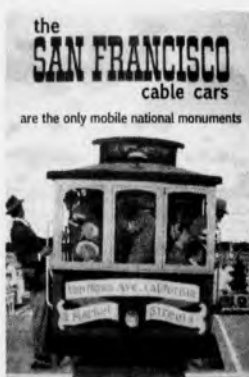
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STATE BRIEFS

BG NEWS
WIRE
SOURCES

Operator fined \$465,500 after grain bin death

MORRAL, Ohio (AP) — The operator of three grain bins in central Ohio has been fined \$465,500 by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration following inspections stemming from the death of a worker.

The U.S. Labor Department says a 20-year-old worker died in a discharge device while cleaning a bin at the Gavilon Grain LLC site in Morral.

The government says inspections at the site and sites in Harpster and West Jefferson found 46 safety and health violations, including three willful violations, committed with knowledge of or disregard for the law or with indifference to worker safety.

Omaha, Neb.-based Gavilon says it is committed to maintaining a safe working environment for employees and has increased efforts to meet or exceed government safety standards, including the hiring of additional safety managers and increased training.

Olear receives 33 months in prison for fraud

A Mentor man was sentenced Wednesday to 33 months in prison for defrauding 30 investors of about \$339,000 and failing to report the income from his scheme.

Ronald J. Olear, 57, pleaded guilty in January to charges of securities fraud and three counts of filing a false tax return before U.S. District Court Judge Donald C. Nugent in Cleveland.

The judge ordered Olear to pay back \$339,102 to the victims of the fraud.

Olear could have been sentenced to up to 10 years in prison on the securities fraud count and a maximum three years on each of the false tax return counts.

However, both sides agreed to jointly recommend the judge follow sentencing guidelines at the low end of the advisory scale.

Ohio gov. wants to open parks to oil, gas drilling

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Ohio has moved closer to joining neighboring states in the debate over natural gas drilling, a shift that could bring jobs and more money along with worries over the impact on drinking water and the environment.

Gov. John Kasich's budget plan released this week includes a proposal to open up state parks to drilling for natural gas and oil, along with expanding timber sales.

Much of eastern Ohio sits on top of a lucrative shale deposit that also stretches beneath most of West Virginia and Pennsylvania, but Ohio has yet to cash-in on the natural gas reserve like the other states.

It's not known yet how much of Ohio's park land would be suitable for drilling or how much money leasing the land would bring, said David Mustine, head of the state's Department of Natural Resources.

A state committee that looked at the idea two years ago put Ohio's estimated take as high as \$5 million a year.

CURLING

From Page 1

curling league.

"My first throw wasn't very good," Wickert said. "So it's probably, actually good that no one was here to see it."

"It's a great idea to check it out, or just join the club," Lance said. "Curling is competitive but it's a very friendly game."

Lance, who began curling two years ago as a freshman, is now the vice president of the University's curling club. Members of the curling club each pay \$50 to participate and practice every Tuesday night at the Ice Arena.

While Lance has been curling since she was a freshman, graduate student and curling club president Nick Derksen joined the club as a junior.

"At first I thought it sounded like the stupidest thing in the whole world," Derksen said. "But I went and played, and

my passion for it just grew from there."

While curling might not be the first sport that comes to mind when looking into club sports, Derksen and Lance have had to adapt to a larger interest this year, Derksen said. The club allows 24 people to play on the ice at one time, but had 36 participants at the beginning of the year.

"We always see a lot more people interested in playing closer to the Olympics," Lance said. "Everyone knows about it through the Olympics, but almost no one has ever played."

While Lance and Derksen joined the curling club because of their general interest in the sport, both continue because of the club's social aspect.

"It's just a great time," Lance said. "Overall it's a unique sport, but it's an easy game to pick up and have fun with."

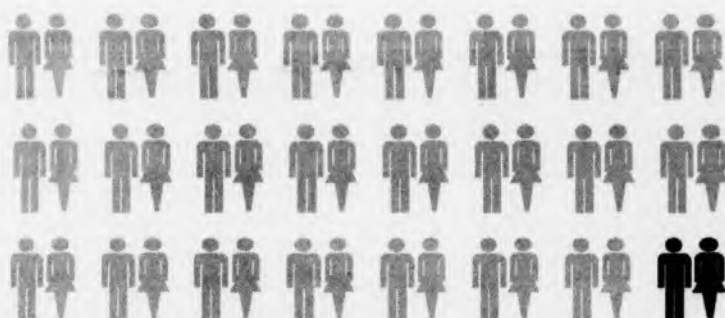
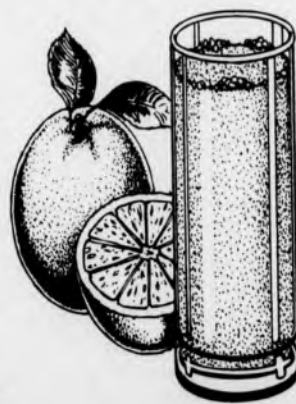


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NATION BRIEFS

BG NEWS
WIRE
SOURCES

Feds deploy more radiation monitors in western US

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — More radiation monitors are being deployed in the western United States and Pacific territories, as officials seek to mollify public concern over exposure from damaged nuclear plants in Japan, federal environmental regulators said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency already monitors radiation throughout the area as part of its RadNet system, which measures levels in air, drinking water, milk and rain.

The additional monitors are being deployed "in an abundance of caution" in response to the ongoing nuclear crisis in Japan, where emergency workers are attempting to cool overheated reactors damaged by last week's magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami.

Officials with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said they do not expect harmful radiation levels to reach the U.S. from Japan.

4 New York Times journalists missing in Libya

NEW YORK (AP) — Four New York Times journalists covering the fighting in Libya were reported missing Wednesday, and the newspaper held out hope that they were alive and in the custody of the Libyan government.

Editors last heard from the journalists on Tuesday as they were covering the retreat of rebels from the town of Ajdabiya, and Libyan officials told the newspaper they were trying to locate the four, executive editor Bill Keller said in a statement. The Times said there were unconfirmed reports that Libyan forces had detained the foursome.

"We are grateful to the Libyan government for their assurance that if our journalists were captured they would be released promptly and unharmed," Keller said.

The missing journalists are Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Anthony Shadid, the newspaper's Beirut bureau chief, Stephen Farrell, a reporter and videographer, and photographers Tyler Hicks and Lynsey Addario. In 2009, Farrell was kidnapped by the Taliban and later rescued by British commandos.

5 dead in plane crash at Long Beach airport

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — A twin-engine plane crashed in a fireball shortly after takeoff Wednesday, killing five people and critically injuring a sixth, authorities said.

A privately-owned Beechcraft King Air turboprop had taken off but was circling back when it went down at about 10:30 a.m. Long Beach Airport Director Mario Rodriguez said.

He did not immediately know why the plane turned around. The aircraft exploded in a fireball, he said.

Five people were pronounced dead at the scene and a man was taken to the hospital in critical condition, Rodriguez said.

The victims' identities were not immediately released.

The burning plane sparked a small ground fire that was quickly extinguished, Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Reeb said.

Teaching seen as crucial in toppingw rankings

MIAMI (AP) — Countries that outpace the U.S. in education employ many different strategies to help their students excel. They do, however, share one: They set high requirements to become a teacher, hold them to a high esteem and give them plenty of support.

On Wednesday and Thursday, education leaders, including U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan, the nation's largest teacher unions, and officials from the highest scoring countries, are meeting in New York to identify the best teaching practices.

The meeting comes after the recently released results of the Programme for International Student Assessment exam of 15-year-olds alarmed U.S. educators. Out of 34 countries, it ranked 14th in reading, 17th in science and 25th in math.

Muslim removed from flight wants crew disciplined

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A Muslim woman from San Diego wants a Southwest Airlines crew disciplined for removing her from a flight for wearing a headscarf.

Irum Abassi (EE-room ah-BAH-see) said Wednesday she was forced off a San Jose-bound flight in San Diego on Sunday because a flight attendant found her to be suspicious.

Abassi said she was told that a flight attendant overheard her say on her cell phone "it's a go."

Abassi told reporters that she said, "I've got to go," before hanging up because the flight was about to depart.

Southwest Airlines apologized to Abassi and gave her a voucher for another flight.

Southwest spokesman Chris Mainz said the airline is looking into the matter, but will not disclose internal actions.

Higher prices for food about to get worse

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans are noticing higher prices at the grocery store, and it's about to get worse.

Food prices at the wholesale level rose last month by the most in 36 years. Cold weather accounted for most of it, forcing stores and restaurants to pay more for green peppers, lettuce and other vegetables, but meat and dairy prices surged, too.

The big questions are how long food prices will keep rising and how high they'll go.

The impact is already visible. Wendy's, paying higher prices for tomatoes, now puts them on hamburgers only by request. Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts have raised prices because they pay more for coffee beans. Supermarkets warn customers that produce may be of lower quality, or limited.

"It has thrown the whole industry into a tizzy," said Dan Bates, director of merchandising for the produce division of grocery chain Supervalu Inc.

Food prices rose 3.9 percent last month, the most since November 1974. Most of the increase was because harsh winter freezes in Florida, Texas and other Southern states, which damaged crops.

At the same time, global prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, coffee and other commodities have risen

sharply in the past year. That's raised the price of animal feed, which has pushed up the cost of eggs, ground beef and milk.

Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics, said his firm has warned since last summer that spikes in commodity prices would eventually work their way down to wholesalers and consumers, "and here it is. There is plenty more to come over the next few months."

Crop prices began to increase last summer, after droughts slammed harvests in Russia and several other countries. Sharp growth in new world economic powers like India and China has also increased demand.

Overall, the producer price index, which tracks price changes before they reach the consumer, rose 1.6 percent in February, the Labor Department said Wednesday. That's double the rise from the previous month and the biggest increase since June 2009. The index is adjusted to account for seasonal variations.

More expensive food means people have less money for the casual spending that helps the economy grow and create jobs. And it adds to growing concerns about inflation down the road, still a worry two years after the Great Recession.

Another is the weak housing market, which most economists

"It has thrown the whole industry into a tizzy ... this year was ... a perfect storm."

Dan Bates | Supervalu stores

say is years away from a full recovery. The government said Wednesday that home construction plunged in February to the lowest level since April 2009 and the second-lowest in more than a half-century.

The stock market dropped sharply on the disappointing U.S. economic reports and growing concerns about Japan's nuclear crisis. The Dow Jones industrial average fell by more than 240 points, or 2 percent.

Hints of steeper food prices will likely show up in the government's report on consumer prices, due out Thursday. The consumer price index is forecast to rise 0.4 percent, the same as the previous two months, but the wholesale report caused several economists to warn it could be higher.

Many economists expect food prices to keep rising through the end of the year. Consumer food prices will be about 5 percent higher this fall than the previous time last year, according to RBC Capital Markets. That's up

from the current annual pace of about 2 percent.

Food prices are already the highest since the U.N. began keeping track in 1990.

Corn prices have almost doubled since last summer, although they did dip this week after Japan's devastating earthquake and tsunami.

The harsh winter took a toll on restaurants, grocery stores and consumers. Normally if there is a shortage of one product in Florida, such as green peppers, companies can turn to Mexico or Texas. But all the major vegetable producing regions were harmed. That has led to everything from smaller heads of lettuce to higher prices for bananas and scared fruit.

"This year was basically a perfect storm," said Supervalu's Bates, who hopes things will improve now that the spring growing season is almost here.

Ashley Sewell, who works three part-time jobs in Fort Worth, Texas, says she sees the difference when she goes out to eat or shop for groceries.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET If you could play any sport on ice what would it be?



"Pingpong."

MELISSA MATTHEWS,
Freshman,
Middle Childhood Edu.



"Lacrosse."

TONY DIMARTINI,
Freshman,
Nursing



"Pole vaulting."

NICK MILLER,
Sophomore,
Chemistry



"Racquetball."

RACHEL RUTTER,
Sophomore,
HDFS

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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgviews.com.

Westboro Baptist Church case result questions first amendment



TYLER BUCHANAN
COLUMNIST

The Westboro Baptist Church. To many, hearing these four words is all it takes to create anger.

I'm going to guess that the fundamentalist "church" of Topeka, Kan. is probably one of the most hated organizations in the United States. While I'm at it, I'm going to also go out on a limb and assume I will not be BG's starting quarterback for the 2011 season.

Before I continue, let me go on record as saying I loathe the WBC. It should go without saying, but I am far from a sympathizer to the church, its messages, or just about anything to do with it. Aside from the physical violence directed at the church or its members, the group deserves every bit of the harsh criticism it receives from everyone it encounters.

All right, now we can move on.

Earlier this month, the Supreme Court finally ruled on a case against the church in the ongoing battle of the

legality of some of the group's controversial actions.

The WBC picketed the funeral of an American soldier, prompting the family to sue for defamation, invasion of privacy, as well as infliction of emotional distress. A district court ruled in favor of the family, and the case then moved to a federal appeals court. The legal tennis match gave the second set to the WBC, when the appeals court reversed the lower court's ruling.

Such was the stage for an intriguing First Amendment battle in the U.S. Supreme Court. Undoubtedly, if left to the hands of citizens, the WBC would lose quicker than they could raise their signs in protest.

On March 2 however, the court did an amazing thing — an 8-1 decision ruled in favor of the church.

The news of the ruling came as a shock to myself and others across America, though not for the same reason as many of my anti-WBC colleagues. Others may not see how eight justices could vote in the church's favor. My primary concern is that a justice of the United States Supreme Court actually ruled against them.

Incessantly referring to the church's speech as being vulgar and vicious, Justice Samuel Alito voted in favor of the family. Fortunately, I still have my political science book from last year I was unable to sell. Unfortunately for Alito, the First Amendment does not state that citizens have a right to free speech "unless Samuel Alito finds it offensive."

We live in a nation that is currently terrified of constitutional change. Think of the amount of times we've heard messages of Barack Obama subverting the constitution or the government trying to take our guns away.

Blame it on what you want, the media, the laughably poor job our nation's citizens undertake in the vetting process of our government's policy making, what have you. The fact remains that right now, for whatever reason, our rights being systematically destroyed is a genuine fear in our country.

It is therefore refreshing to see the Supreme Court rule in favor of the right to free speech in this case. Understand that it was hardly an open and shut case; there is no "Approved (See

First Amendment)" stamping assembly line in our judicial branch.

A whole month of BG News publications would not leave enough room to conclusively analyze the complex angles of the First Amendment, what is and what is not protected, along with all the relevant cases and precedents of the last hundred or so years. Such arguments and all Supreme Court rulings and justice opinions can be found online.

I normally dismiss slippery slope arguments, but in the case of ruling against the First Amendment, the question is left "what next?" How does the government's interpretation of protection shift when speech merely being considered vicious is not left protected?

I am not a sympathizer of the Westboro Baptist Church, nor would I consider myself an absolutist of the First Amendment or of just about anything. I would, however, be hard-pressed to opine against it, much less in a newspaper opinion column.

Respond to Tyler at thenews@bgnews.com

Nostalgia takes on a bittersweet tone for student

Some memories can be worth the heartache

By Noah Ballard

The Daily Nebraskan (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
College News Network

Sometimes I miss the heartbreak, you know?

It seems like everyone comes to college for two distinct reasons: to get a piece of paper that qualifies us for the ever-competitive job market and for the connections we'll talk about for the rest of our lives.

When I was a kid, my mom would tell me censored stories — that have since become less censored as I grew up — about her magical days at Brandeis. Apparently there was this guy who used to walk around with a big cooler full of sandwiches and things late at night, knocking on residence hall doors, selling to the students pulling all-nighters.

On the first day of one of my classes this semester, to learn everyone's name in the class, the teacher instructed us to come up with a word that described us that started with the same letter as our first name. That would help us associate names with everyone in the class. It actually worked pretty well for me. But that's not the point. My word was "nostalgic."

Nostalgic Noah.

This column finds me reminiscing about my childhood or about the experiences I've picked up in my years in college. For humor, I typically pick out the more embarrassing and less pleasant memories from my mental timeline. These are the fun stories, after all, in hindsight.

I reminisce with Casey Welsh every once in a while about "The Best Day of Our Lives." It happened a few years ago when Casey and another friend came with me back home to New Jersey. The story includes a girl I used to date, the editor of High Times, the "Gossip Girl" trivia game and a half-drunk bottle of Jim Beam that I'm never going to get back. If you run into me downtown sometime, I'll certainly tell you what happened in its unabridged form.

We told that story again the other day to one of our young reporters when she told us she was heading east for spring break. And each time we tell it, as all my friends who've heard it can attest, the story gets more outrageous and more intellectually meaningful.

But that's just the nature of being nostalgic and thinking back. Of course it gets edited, little moments augmented or omitted for the sake of the story and peace of mind.

The point is: We sure wouldn't do it again.

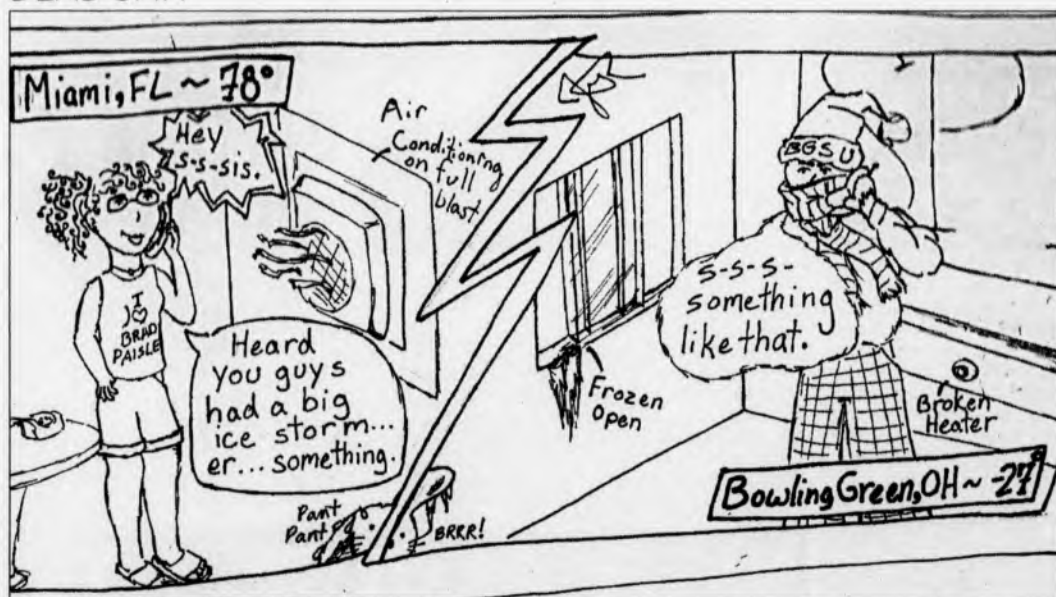
But I'm still Nostalgic Noah, and I tend to look back and think of all the days that led up to this one in bitter-sweet reverie. When I write down all these memories, I can laugh it off the superficiality of the stories long forgotten. But there are still the stories that everyone has that we'll never write down. These are the stories that have formed their own colony in our brains, far away from anything we use on a daily basis: These are the tales of heartbreak.

One of my weakest moments as a human being was when I was early in my college career. I was still living at home, going to a community college, punishing myself for not being as hard-working as my friends who had all gone away, including the girl I had dated for two years.

In high school, she was the personified trappings of the East Coast, suburban dream: She worked too hard, she read all the right books and she was vaguely leftist. She was like Julia Stiles in "10 Things I Hate About You."

After we graduated, she broke up with me and went to Wesleyan University in Connecticut (not the church in Havelock, Neb.). As such, I'll forever have a grudge against that place. (The television shows "Mad Men" and "How I Met Your Mother" were both created by Wesleyan alumni, and MGMT, Santigold and Das Racist went there. It's a hard school to hate, but I'm holding strong.)

DEAD SPIN



JULIE REITH | THE BG NEWS

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THE BG NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES:

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

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as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of **The BG News**.

WORLD BRIEFS

BG NEWS
WIRE
SOURCES

'Blood money' frees CIA contractor in Pakistan

LAHORE, Pakistan — An American CIA contractor who shot and killed two Pakistani men was released from prison Wednesday and left Pakistan after more than \$2 million in "blood money" was paid to his victims' families, defusing a dispute that threatened an alliance vital to defeating al-Qaida and ending the Afghan war.

In what appeared to be carefully choreographed end to a crisis that had stoked anti-Americanism to new heights, the U.S. Embassy said the Justice Department had opened an investigation into the killings on Jan. 27 by Raymond Allen Davis.

It thanked the families for "their generosity" in pardoning Davis. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton denied the U.S. had made any payments, but she didn't dispute that the men's families were compensated. A lawyer for the families said the money came from the Americans.

While the deal removed the most obvious obstacle to improved ties between the two nations, the affair revealed just how fragile the alliance is despite efforts by the Obama administration to secure Pakistan's cooperation in the fight against extremism.

—Babar Dogar and Chris Brummitt (AP)

Bahrain locks down kingdom as uprising surges

MANAMA, Bahrain — Soldiers and riot police in Bahrain overran a protesters' camp, imposed a 12-hour curfew and choked off movement nationwide Wednesday. Witnesses described helicopters firing on homes in a hunt for Shiites and attacking doctors treating the wounded, while the government called the demonstrators "outlaws" for demanding an end to the monarchy.

The nation that once led the Middle East in entrepreneurial openness went into lockdown, its government propped by troops from Sunni Gulf neighbors fearful for their own rule and the spread of Shiite Iran's influence.

The unrest that began last month increasingly looks like a sectarian showdown: The country's Sunni leaders are desperate to hold power, and majority Shiites want more rights and an end to their dynasty.

—Barbara Surk and Reem Khalifa (AP)

Rebels battle to hold city under Gadhafi siege

AJDABIYA, Libya — Libyan rebels battled to hold a strategic eastern city against a punishing offensive by forces loyal to Moammar Gadhafi on Wednesday, voicing anger and frustration at the West for not coming to their aid. At the same time, government troops heavily shelled the last main rebel bastion near the capital.

Charred vehicles, bullet-riddled pickup trucks and an overturned tank littered the desert highway where pro-Gadhafi forces had fought up to the entrance of the key eastern city of Ajdabiya. An Associated Press Television News cameraman counted at least three bodies by the side of the road, evidence of fierce battles. Government troops were bringing in a stream of truckloads of ammunition, rockets and supplies — signs of an intensified effort by the Libyan leader to retake control of the country he has ruled with an iron fist for more than four decades.

The rebels lashed out at the West as the latest international effort to impose a no-fly zone over Libya stumbled along.

—Khaled Kazzuha and Maggie Michael (AP)

Task force favors 2-vote process for Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Puerto Rico should hold a new two-stage referendum on its relationship with the United States, a federal task force said Wednesday, and it called for Congress to honor the result, whether for independence, statehood, free association or its current status as a territory.

Under the task force plan, Puerto Rico would organize a referendum asking voters first if they want to be part of the U.S. or become independent. If they choose ties with the U.S., they would be given statehood or the current commonwealth as options. If they opt for independence, they would choose between free association and independence.

Under free association, the U.S. would still provide defense and economic aid, but Puerto Ricans would no longer be U.S. citizens, although they could still work and study in the U.S.

"No matter what choice the people of Puerto Rico make, it's their choice," said Tom Perrelli, task force co-chair and U.S. associate attorney general. "Congress should implement that as quickly as possible."

—Danica Coto (AP)

Iran says 9 inmates killed during escape attempt

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Prisoners broke windows and set fires during a botched escape attempt that left at least nine prisoners dead and 33 injured, Iran's State TV said Wednesday.

The prisoners clashed with security forces Tuesday night at Ghezel Hesar Prison, 30 kilometers (18.64 miles) west of capital, Tehran.

State TV said none of the prisoners managed to escape. According to the report, most of the prisoners involved were convicted drug smugglers on death row.

The website for the state prisons system said the inmates attacked the guards, who fought back.

New power line may ease crisis at Japan nuke plant

FUKUSHIMA, Japan — A nearly completed new power line could restore cooling systems in Japan's tsunami-crippled nuclear power plant, its operator said Thursday, raising some hope of easing the crisis that has threatened a meltdown and already spawned dangerous radiation surges.

The conditions at the plant appeared to worsen, with white smoke pouring from the complex and a surge in radiation levels forcing workers to retreat for hours Wednesday from their struggle to cool the overheating reactors.

As international concern mounted, the chief of the U.N. nuclear agency said he would go to Japan to assess what he called a "serious" situation and urged Tokyo to provide better information to his organization.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. spokesman Naoki Tsunoda said the new power line to the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant is almost finished and that officials plan to try it "as soon as possible," but he could not say exactly when.

—Eric Talmadge and Mari Yamaguchi (AP)

Mexico: US drones over its territory

US aircraft helps fight Mexican drug war

Olga R. Rodriguez
The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The Mexican government said Wednesday it has allowed U.S. drones to fly over its territory to gather intelligence on drug traffickers, but insisted the operations were under its control.

The country's National Security Council said in a statement that the unmanned aircraft have flown over Mexico on specific occasions, mainly along the border with the U.S., to gather information at the request of the Mexican government.

The flights expand the U.S. role in the drug war, in which Americans already have been training Mexican soldiers and police as well as cooperating on other intelligence.

"When these operations are carried out, they are always done with the authorization, oversight and supervision of national agencies, including the Mexican Air Force," the council said.

It said Mexico always defines the objectives, the

information to be gathered and the specific tasks in which the drones will be used and insisted that the operations respected Mexican law, civil and human rights.

The drones "have been particularly useful in achieving various objectives of combating crime and have significantly increased Mexican authorities' capabilities and technological superiority in its fight against crime," the council said.

The drone operations, involving U.S. military aircraft, were first reported Wednesday by The New York Times.

The flights were quickly criticized by some Mexican politicians, who have often been sensitive to the involvement of U.S. agencies on Mexican soil.

Sen. Ricardo Monreal of the leftist Labor Party said having U.S. drones flying over Mexico is "unconstitutional and it violates national sovereignty." He issued a statement accusing the government of being "too submissive to the neighbor to the north" and said Mexico's Senate was never informed of the drone operations.

Health fund launches panel to reassure donors

Countries donating to Global Fund request encouragement after evidence of grant corruption

John Heilprin
The Associated Press

GENEVA — A global health fund besieged by criticism after finding its grant money was being used corruptly has turned to an ex-president of Botswana and a former high-ranking U.S. Republican to reassure its donors.

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria announced Wednesday it has tapped former Botswana President Festus Mogae and ex-U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt to lead an outside panel that will examine its finances.

The United States has contributed more than \$5 billion to the Geneva-based fund, France has contributed \$2.4 billion, Britain almost \$1.4 billion, and Japan, Germany and the European Commission have each given more than \$1.2 billion.

But after The Associated Press reported in January that the fund's investigators were finding high percentages of some grants eaten by corruption, as documented in the fund's internal watchdog reports to its board members, Germany and other countries said they wanted additional assurances from the fund before releasing

pledged money.

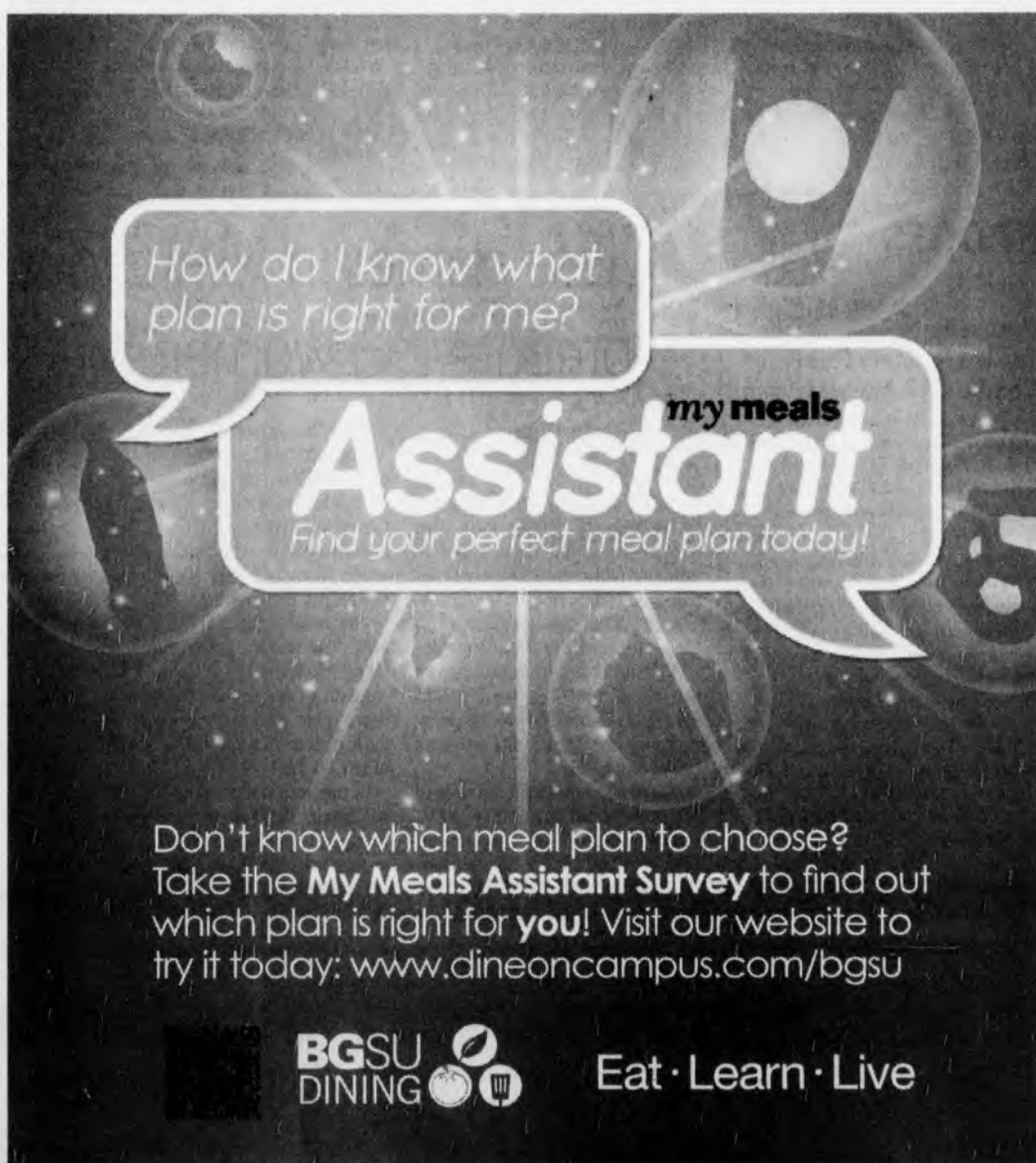
A Republican-controlled U.S. House appropriations panel has also proposed a \$450 cut in contributions to the fund — which the fund's supporters say would hurt millions suffering from the diseases.

The fund has demanded the return of \$34 million and this month suspended a \$13.91 million grant to Mali, but hopes the high-level panel of outside experts will provide the extra assurances its jittery donors are looking for.

The fund has been operating as a relatively transparent financing mechanism, hiring internal auditors and investiga-

tors and outside audit firms to provide checks and balances and then making much of that information public on its Web site. But faced with a public backlash, officials have begun more closely examining what information they provide to the public.

"The appointment of this panel is part of the Global Fund commitment to ensuring our financial controls are the most robust possible, and that donor investments go directly to fighting AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis," said Dr. Michel Kazatchkine, a French immunologist who heads the fund as its executive director.




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FALCONS RETURN HOME



LAUREN POFF | THE BG NEWS

PATIENCE AT THE PLATE: Senior Frank Berry waits for a pitch during Wednesday's game against Northwest Ohio University. Berry went 2 for 4 at the plate and scored a run as BG beat the Racers 6-5 at Steller Field.

BG defeats Northwest Ohio University 6-5 on walk-off walk in home opener

By Michele Wysocki
Reporter

The Falcons took the field for the first time at home Wednesday after being on the road for a month.

Being away from home the first 12 games of the season didn't hurt the Falcons, as they defeated University of Northwestern Ohio 6-5, bringing their record to 5-8.

"We've covered a lot of miles so far; it's good to get a game in at home," said BG coach Danny Schmitz.

Grounds crew took the tarp off of Steller Field at 8 a.m. to start getting things ready for the

afternoon game.

Senior left-handed pitcher Matt Malewitz started the game with a shaky outing, surrendering a walk and five runs, one of which was unearned, on three hits in 1.1 innings of work.

Sophomore Cody Apthrope came in relief of Malewitz to finish out the inning as the Racers led 5-0 after two innings.

The Falcons got on the board in the bottom half of the second inning as a wild pitch by Racers' starter Justin Binegar led to BG's first run of the game.

Junior captain Jon Berti led off the

fourth inning with a triple and later came around to score as the Falcons cut the deficit to three runs. Berti went 1 for 4 at the plate as he is nursing a hamstring injury.

"Berti is not quite 100 percent, but he is progressing," Schmitz said. "We hope to have him back to full strength soon. We have a few guys banged up, but that's when other guys get the opportunities and it is up to those guys to do the job."

While UNOH remained scoreless, BG added to the scoreboard.

See **OPENER** | Page 7



GILLY HANSON | THE BG NEWS

EYES ON THE BALL: Freshman outfielder Andrew Kubuski scoops up the ball during Wednesday's game.

SPORTS BRIEF

Prochaska named regional finalist for State Farm Coaches' All-America Team

BG senior women's basketball player Lauren Prochaska has been named one of 52 finalists for the 2011 State Farm Coaches' All-American Basketball Team for NCAA Division I. This is the third consecutive season Prochaska has earned the honor.

Prochaska leads the Falcons in scoring with 17.9 points per game. She is second on the team in rebounding, assists, steals and blocked shots.

The selection marks the fifth time in as many seasons that a BG player earns the honor. She joins former women's basketball players Ali Mann, who was a regional finalist in 2007 and Kate Achter, who was recognized in 2008.

The State Farm Coaches' All-American Team selection committee will cut the list from 52 to 40 finalists on Monday, March 21. The 40 finalists will all be up for selection to the 10-member All-America Team.

Close games in MAC tournament prepare BG women for NCAAs

By Paul Barney
Sports Editor

In sports, games have the tendency to be blowouts, and a team can learn a lot about these types of games, whether it's a 20-point game, a 30-point game or even higher.

And it doesn't matter if they're on the winning side or the losing side.

All too often, though, games are close, and last week's Mid-American Conference tournament was just that for the BG women's basketball game.

Three games, three wins and a championship — the MAC tournament was one to remem-

ber for the Falcons.

Confetti fell from the rafters; and BG cut down the nets at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland just as it did a year ago. For their efforts, the Falcons once again punched their ticket into the NCAA Tournament.

The road to get there wasn't easy. The payoff, however, could be beneficial.

Against Ohio in the MAC tournament quarterfinals, BG overcame early deficits of four and six points to win 66-57.

In the semifinals against Central Michigan, the Falcons led by as many as 14 points midway through

the second half, but the Chippewas got back to within 5 points before losing 80-72.

And against Eastern Michigan in the finals, the game saw three ties and four lead changes, with BG prevailing for a 51-46 victory.

Each of the Falcons' wins involved a key moment in the second half, whether it was a scoring run or a momentum-changing play, like Tracy Pontius' one-handed, behind-the-back bounce pass to Lauren Prochaska on a fast break that resulted in a layup.

See **HOOPS** | Page 7

BG's last three games

Ohio: As the No. 10 seed in the MAC tournament, the Bobcats battled the second-seeded Falcons for much of the quarterfinal game of the MAC tournament. Ohio led 34-30 early in the second half, but BG went on a 20-4 run over a span of six-plus minutes to prevail for a 66-57 win.

CMU: After defeating Central Michigan and its high-flying offense by 28 points on Jan. 22, this semifinal matchup fared much closer as the Falcons overcame a 45-43 second half deficit with a 12-0 run to knock off the Chippewas 80-72.

EMU: In the first meeting of the season, BG overcame a seven-point halftime deficit to beat the Eagles by five points. Against Eastern Michigan in the MAC tournament finals, both teams once again found themselves in a back-and-forth game that was settled by five points, a 51-46 win for the Falcons.

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GYMNASTICS

BG heads to Mt. Pleasant

The Falcon gymnastics team travels to Mt. Pleasant, Mich. this weekend for the Mid-American Conference Championships. Pick up Friday's edition of The BG News for a full preview.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Falcons set to play Georgia Tech

For an outlook on the BG women's basketball team and its first-round game of the NCAA Tournament with the Yellow Jackets, pick up Friday's edition of The BG News.



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Pitcher Jason Davis returns to Indians camp for tryout

GOODYEAR, Ariz. (AP) — Jason Davis is the most surprised person in the Cleveland Indians' training camp.

He doesn't have a name on his jersey or even a contract, but the 30-year-old right-hander wore a big smile and was almost in awe as he jogged out to the minor-league fields Wednesday.

"I can't believe I'm here wearing this," Davis said as he tugged the Indians logo on a faded minor-league uniform. "I'm like a little kid again. I'm so happy."

Davis hasn't pitched in two years. He called the Indians and asked for a tryout. There's no guarantee he will wear that old uniform for more than a few days.

"All I asked was a chance and here I am," Davis said. "I'm going to throw a few bullpen sessions and we'll see what happens. I can still throw hard and I think I'm in a good place mentally. Looking back, I was really a mess the last few years I pitched."

Eight years ago, Davis was Cleveland's No. 2 starter behind CC Sabathia as a raw rookie with a 99 mph fast-ball. He went 8-11 in 27 starts at age 23, including a com-

plete-game win over Detroit in which he gave up one run and no walks.

Moved to the bullpen in 2005 and traded to Seattle in 2007, Davis' career faded as he had difficulty throwing strikes. He last pitched in the majors for Pittsburgh in 2008, and was 0-8 with a 6.06 ERA at Triple-A Indianapolis in 2009.

"Jason has always been very professional," said Ross Atkins, the Indians' vice president of player development. "He showed flashes of being a big-league pitcher. We thought we would take a look and let him go through the process."

Davis did not play in 2010. He believes the mental break has helped him forget bad habits and that he can once again pitch effectively.

"The harder I tried to prove myself, the more bad habits I picked up," Davis said. "Last year, the only thing I had to do with baseball was coaching first base for my 7-year-old daughter's softball team. No pressure, just fun."

Davis said he intends to have fun in his tryout and just air it out.

"There's no promises," Davis

"All I asked was a chance and here I am. I'm going to throw a few bullpen sessions and we'll see what happens. I can still throw hard and I think I'm in a good place mentally. Looking back, I was really a mess the last few years I pitched."

Jason Davis | Indians' pitcher

said. "I'm just going to throw. I've been here only a couple days and I've found out how much I missed this game."

Davis is the longest of long shots in Cleveland's crowded camp — but points to others who have recaptured their dreams elsewhere.

Jim Morris was a 35-year-old school teacher who had never pitched above Class A and was out of the game for 10 years when he made it to the majors with Tampa Bay in 1999.

Outfielder Gabe Kapler had not played in two years and was a minor-league coach when he decided to give it another shot in 2008 at age 32 — and hit .301 with 8 homers and 38 RBIs in 96 games for Milwaukee.

Atkins isn't sure if there is room for Davis in the Indians' farm system. Cleveland is loaded with pitching prospects, but Atkins said an experienced right-hander with good velocity is always welcome — as long as he throws strikes.

Davis didn't do that in one inning of work in a minor-league game against Cincinnati Reds prospects. He walked the first man he faced, and hit the second in the shoulder with a fast-ball. Next came a wild pitch behind a batter, followed by another wild pitch when Davis hung on too long to a breaking ball.

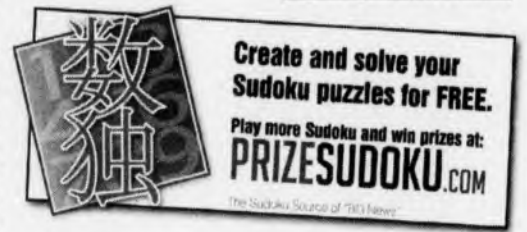
"I overthrew a bit," Davis said. "But my arm felt fine and then I threw some strikes."

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU								
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SUDOKU

To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved. Just use logic to solve

9	E	7	L	6	Z	8	I	S
S	I	L	9	8	7	Z	6	E
Z	8	6	5	I	E	9	7	L
L	6	Z	7	E	I	5	9	8
I	9	5	8	L	6	E	Z	7
8	7	E	Z	5	9	6	L	I
7	5	9	E	Z	L	I	8	6
E	Z	I	6	7	8	L	5	9
6	Z	8	I	9	5	7	E	Z



BYRON MACK | THE BG NEWS

REPEAT CHAMPS: The BG women's basketball team holds up its MAC Championship trophy after defeating Eastern Michigan.

HOOPS

From Page 6

The margin of victory got smaller with each game, and every game the Falcons had to battle back and forth.

"At this time of the year it's all about teams grinding each other out, understanding what each other is trying to do," BG coach Curt Miller said after his team defeated EMU for the MAC tournament championship. "That's what this time of year is all

about: surviving and continuing to advance."

In BG's 25 wins during the regular season, its average margin of victory was 19.1 points, with its biggest win being 46 points against Youngstown State in the third game of the season.

The Falcons won 19 of their games by double digits, including 12 games by 20 points or more.

In the conference tournament, BG's average margin of victory was 7.3 points.

But with their first-

round game against Georgia Tech just two days away, the Falcons are looking to use those close, grind-it-out games they endured in the MAC tournament and build upon them for the NCAA Tournament.

"I think that will be a big help to know that we can play for 40 minutes and come out with a win at the end," Prochaska said. "I think if we want to win it's going to be tough games like that."



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OPENER

From Page 6

In the seventh inning, freshman Andrew Kubuski hit his first career home run, a two-run shot to make it a 5-4 game.

After senior Ryan Schlater was hit by a pitch in the eighth, Kubuski came up again and delivered a hit to right field, advancing Schlater to third.

On another Racers' wide pitch, Schlater came around to score and tied the game 5-5.

The Falcons set themselves up for a walk-off finish as junior Ross Gerdeman got

UNOH's No. 2, 3 and 4 hitters to ground out and get caught looking on strikes.

"With the exception of the second inning, I feel that our pitchers did a real nice job," Schmitz said. "I thought they threw the ball very well."

BG took the field in the bottom of the ninth, and sophomore Matt Pitzulo led off with a single to center after he went hitless in his first four at-bats.

Berti advanced Pitzulo to second on a fielder's choice, and after senior Frank Berry struck out swinging, BG loaded the bases on a single from junior Patrick Martin and a walk from

freshman Jeremy Shay.

With two outs and the bases loaded, pitcher Dylan Brammer walked junior Matt Vannett on a full count to bring in the winning run for the Falcons.

"I guess that's what you call an ugly win, but we will take it," Schmitz said, "I guess it is better to win ugly than lose pretty."

BG stranded eight runners in scoring position.

"Defensively I thought we played rather well," Schmitz said. "Offensively, we have to get better on giving quality at-bats and hitting with guys in scoring position."

In Brenton, Alabama, there is a law in the town's books against riding down the street in a motor boat.

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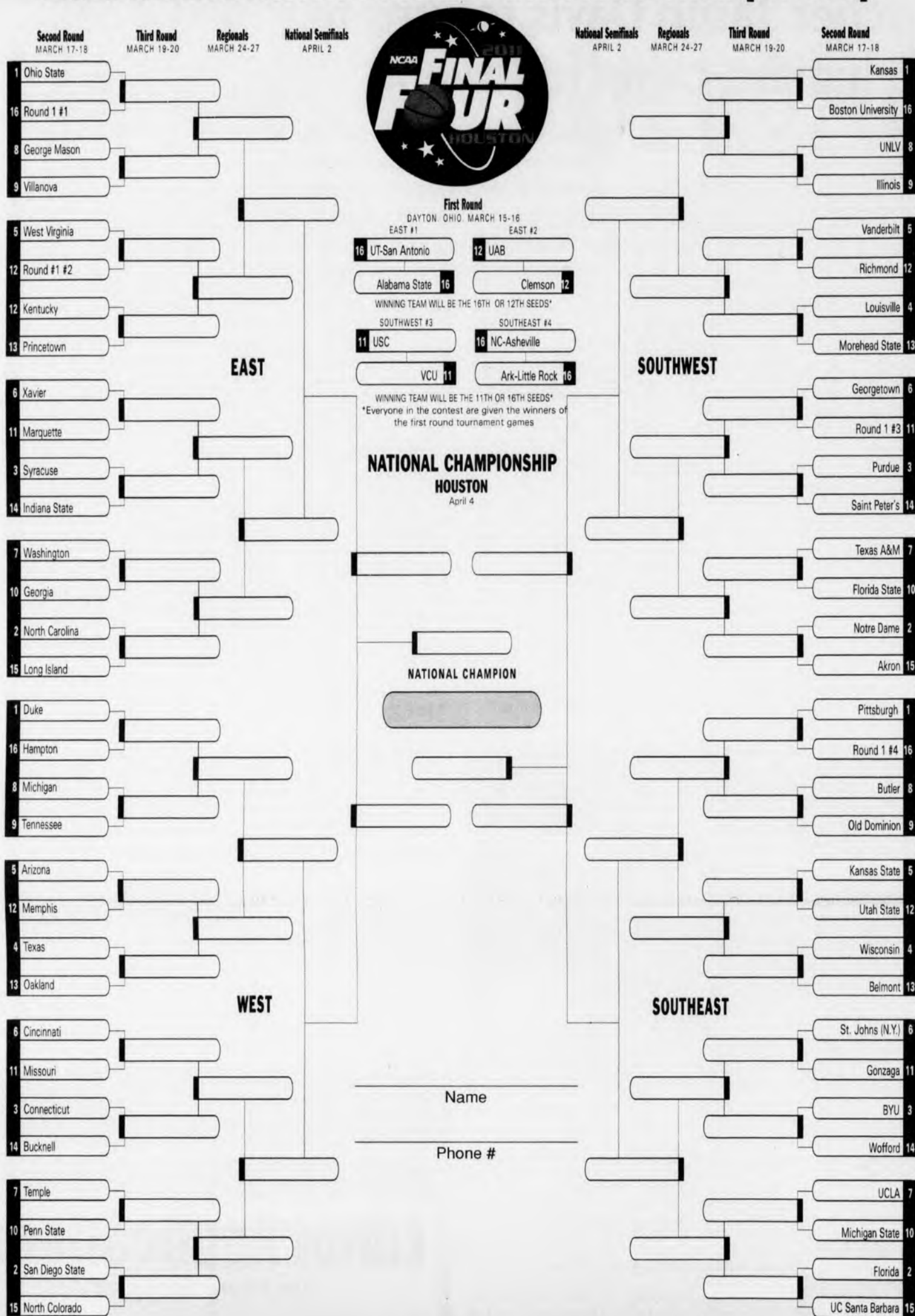
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2011-2012 Academic Year
- Gavel Editor**
2011-2012 Academic Year

Applications may be picked up in 204 West Hall
Applications due: 5 p.m. on Friday, April 1 in 204 West Hall

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2011 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship



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MAJOR NEWS EVENTS

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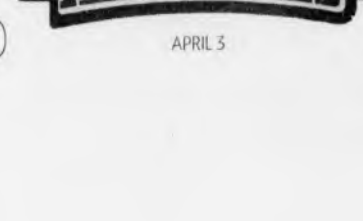
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Elite Eight	Sweet 16	Second Round	First Round
MARCH 28-29	MARCH 26-27	MARCH 21-22	MARCH 19-20



2011 WOMEN'S FINAL FOUR INDIANAPOLIS

APRIL 3

PHILADELPHIA

1 Connecticut

16 Hartford

8 Kansas State

9 Purdue

5 Georgetown

12 Princeton

4 Maryland

13 St. Francis (PA)

6 Penn State

11 Dayton

3 DePaul

14 Navy

7 Iowa State

10 Marist

2 Duke

15 Tennessee-Martin

1 Tennessee

16 Stetson

8 Marquette

9 Texas

5 Georgia Tech

12 Bowling Green

4 Ohio State

13 UCF

6 Oklahoma

11 James Madison

3 Miami (FL)

14 Gardner-Webb

7 Arizona State

10 Temple

2 Notre Dame

15 Utah

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

INDIANAPOLIS

APRIL 5

NATIONAL CHAMPION

SPOKANE

Stanford

UC Davis

Texas Tech

St. John's

North Carolina

Fresno State

Kentucky

Hampton

Iowa

Gonzaga

UCLA

Montana

Louisville

Vanderbilt

Xavier

South Dakota State

Baylor

Prairie View A&M

Houston

West Virginia

Greenbay

Arkansas-Little Rock

Michigan State

Northern Iowa

Georgia

Middle Tennessee

Florida State

Samford

Rutgers

Louisiana Tech

Texas A&M

McNeese State

Name _____

Phone # _____

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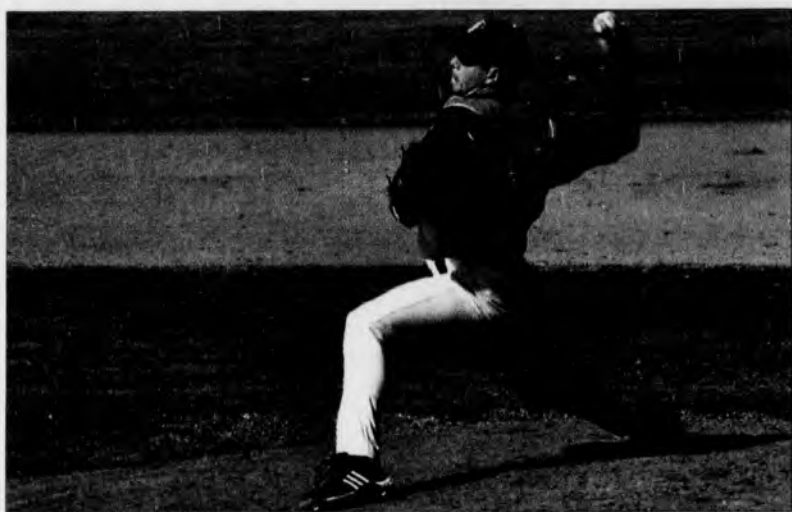
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Also 2 BR apt avail immediately!

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130-134 Liberty St- 1 & 2BR, \$425-\$600/mo +gas/elec, D/W. Newly updated, great location, available in June & Aug. www.bghighlandmgmt.com Call 419-354-6036.

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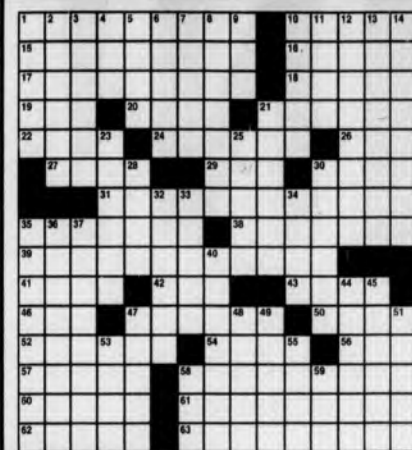
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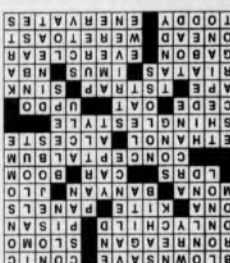
ACROSS

- 1 Closer's bane
- 10 Like some drinking cups
- 15 "My Father at 100: A Memoir" author
- 16 Race arbiter, at times
- 17 Spoiled brat, stereotypically
- 18 Fibonacci, by birth
- 19 mission
- 20 Eagle relative
- 21 Comic strip units
- 22 Lisa Vito: "My Cousin Vinny" role
- 24 Tree with above-ground roots
- 26 "Out of Sight" co-star, familiarly
- 27 PMs or GMs
- 29 Sleeper, for one
- 30 Surge in sales
- 31 Thematic musical release
- 35 Environmental summit topic
- 38 Gluck opera based on a Euripides play
- 39 Like architecture involving cedar shakes

- 41 Hand over
- 42 Cheerios grain
- 43 Pinned arrangement
- 46 Galoot
- 47 Feature of some Birkenstocks
- 50 Ruin
- 52 Cattle drive gear
- 54 Brash radio host
- 56 Org. with June finals
- 57 Country on the Gulf of Guinea
- 58 Band with the 1997 double platinum album "So Much for the Afterglow"
- 60 Pax Romana year
- 61 "This doesn't look good, guys!"
- 62 Chalet beverage
- 63 Drains

- 1 Curling tool
- 2 The Khmer Rouge over-threw him
- 3 No longer cruising
- 4 Like some one-liners
- 5 Banjo part
- 6 Indian honorific
- 7 Mylanta target
- 8 Number denoting an ion's bonding capacity
- 9 Close
- 10 House channel
- 11 Lena of "Chocolat"
- 12 Some facial surgeries
- 13 Disappointing news about a sale item
- 14 It requires a lot of simmering
- 21 Somewhat
- 23 Obscure
- 25 Pester shrilly
- 28 "Yesterday" or "Tomorrow"
- 30 Cover-ups involving 54-Across?
- 32 "He won't be missed"
- 33 Turf piercer
- 34 First Amdt. lobby
- 35 Bistro appetizer
- 36 "Schindler's List" beat it for Best Picture
- 37 Studio space-saver
- 40 Tried hard
- 44 Patronize, in a way
- 45 Contemplating stealing, maybe
- 47 "Driving Miss Daisy" Oscar winner Jessica
- 48 "Honour is ... scutcheon": Shak.
- 49 More pristine
- 51 Small racers
- 53 No dreamboat
- 55 Show with an "American Bandstand"-like spoof called "Mel's Rock Pile"
- 58 Pronoun in a rebus
- 59 Long, on Lanai

ANSWERS



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Mar 14	Non-Degree Graduate Students
Mar 15	Seniors
Mar 17	Juniors
Mar 21	Sophomores
Mar 23	Freshmen
Mar 25	Guest Students

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1. select > student center
2. select > enroll
3. select > add

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